

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air a partisan anti-Kerry "documentary" shortly before the presidential election is a clear violation of Sinclair's pledge to use the public airwaves in the service of the public interest.

If Sinclair carries through on its threatened attack on John Kerry -- and, make no mistake, this is a *attack*, a scurrilous assault disguised as "news" -- then they have shown that they cannot be trusted to live by the terms of their broadcast license. It should be stripped from them unceremoniously.

This debacle illustrates the grave dangers that media consolidation poses to our democracy. The FCC must strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.